



**Jalicia Lane** is a sophomore at Wichita West High School. She is one of nine siblings. Jalicia relays that while her family is considered large, they are all very close and supportive of one another. She is very grateful for their support in encouraging her to do, and be, the very best.

She admits that middle school in comparison to high school was a lot easier for her. She also confesses that she has to focus on time management and academics more and is challenged as she matriculates in honors courses at her high school. She enjoys cheerleading. However, she prioritizes her cheering responsibilities with her classes. Jalicia states, "I have to prepare, organize my time around studying, focusing on each subject, homework and preparing for tests. It has been an adjustment, but I love to work hard and GEAR UP has been a blessing to me and my family as well as my classmates."

Jalicia is an active participant in GEAR UP tutoring before, during and after school. She relays that engaging in campus visits has eliminated fears of attending college. Campus visits have given her career exploration opportunities that she will eventually pursue upon graduation from high school. I

is a sophomore at Southeast High School. He has been an active participant in GEAR UP

volunteers for blood drives at school and for Via Christi